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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Costa, *et al.*

U.S. Natl. Phase of: PCT/EP2004/002577

Intl. Filing Date: March 12, 2004

Filed: herewith

Appl. No: to be assigned

For: **High Homogeneity Silica Glass Prepared
through a Sol-Gel Procedure**

Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

Atty. Dkt.: 7601/84392

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, MS PCT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-captioned application as described herein.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of the present document.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of the present document.

Remarks begin on page 4 of the present document.